



*Connecticut Association of Area Agencies on
Aging Representing:
Agency on Aging of South Central CT
North Central Area Agency on Aging
Western CT Area Agency on Aging
Senior Resources - Agency on Aging Eastern CT
Southwestern CT Agency on Aging*

**To: Honorable Senator Mae Flexer, Co-chairperson and Honorable
Representative Joseph Serra, Co-chairperson and Members of the
Aging Committee**

DT: Submitted February 17, 2015

**RE: Raised Bill 287, AN ACT Creating a Task Force to Study
Alternative Funding Sources for Nutritional Services for Senior
Citizens.**

The Connecticut Association of Area Agencies on Aging supports S.B. 287, An Act Creating a Task Force to Study Alternative Funding Sources for Nutritional Services for Senior Citizens. The Older Americans Act, Title III Elderly Nutrition Programs and Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) have long been the only sources of nutritional support available to older adults. Individuals on a fixed income with variable medical expenses often find themselves at nutritional risk. Lack of basic nutrition has a negative effect on elders that corresponds to negative health outcomes. Connecticut is working diligently to improve the health outcomes for the dually eligible in an effort to improve the overall health and reduce Medicaid spending. The facts are clear: if you ingest fruit, vegetables and/or nutritional supplements, your serum levels of vitamins, minerals and trace elements will be higher, and this will confer a protective element against chronic diseases. ¹

Antiquated regulations and the changing dietary habits of seniors require an overhaul of current nutrition practices and the investigation of additional resources to help modernize nutrition programs. Transportation, menu and location must be considered when identifying successful programs to help supplement the nutritional intake of today's aging population. As the regional delivery coordinators for the Federal, Title III Elderly Nutrition Programs, the CT

Association of Area Agencies on Aging look forward to working as an integral partner on the task force.

1. http://fisherclinic.com/Nutrition_and_disease.html Fisher, Howard, The Relationship Between Nutrition, Disease and Aging: A Review

For further information on programs and services offered through the Connecticut Association of Area Agencies on Aging:

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